ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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DAWN ZIMMER Mayor



Robert W. Phillips, Chairman Michael Blumenfeld, Vice Chairman Steven Bauman, Commissioner

Minutes of the January 22, 2015 Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:09p.m.

The Open Public Meeting Act statement was read by Suzanne Hetman, Board Secretary.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS	
Chairman Robert W. Phillips	ABSENT
Vice Chairman Michael Blumenfeld	PRESENT
Commissioner Steven Bauman	PRESENT

Also Present:

Suzanne Hetman, Board Secretary; Alysia Proko, Attorney for the Board; Jon

Tooke, Director of Public Safety; and Daisy Amado, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2014 MEETING:

BOARD MEMBER	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote
Chairman Phillips						✓
Vice Chairman Blumenfeld		✓	✓			
Commissioner Bauman	✓		✓			

HEARINGS:

1. Liquor License number 0905-33-133-008, River Street Liquor, LLC, d/b/a Cadillac Cantina, 80 River Street, Space 1D & 1E, Hoboken, New Jersey, Case No. 14-16 Per the board secretary, case has been adjourned to a meeting in February.

2. Liquor License number 0905-33-135-008, Black Bear of Hoboken, LLC, d/b/a Wicked Wolf Tavern, 121 Sinatra Street, Hoboken, New Jersey, Case No. 14-15

Thomas Jannarone attorney representing the Wicked Wolf appeared before the board. Board attorney advised that there is a clerical error that needs to be amended as it states that count one took place on 2/1/14 and it should read 9/1/14. Mr. Jannarone advised that this event happened in September, it was overcrowding by ten people and it was issued prior to his client taking over the business and a two day suspension was given. Based on the fact that this is something that happened prior to his client taking over, his client owns bars all over the country not just the state, he is proposing they plead guilty requesting no closing date. Board asked when the license was purchased? Secretary advised in December. Board asked whether license holder knew about these charges before the transfer. Board attorney advised: this was served on the license on November 3; license buyer said he would take all responsibilities; and they did accept nuisance charges for

September. Mr. Jannarone said they would plead guilty but asked that his client not be closed out. He further said he has plenty of experience working with the State and the way they would handle is the charges would stay with the license, new owner may mitigate circumstances. Board asked if both violations were known. Board secretary advised that the transfer happened on December 11th and the letter was sent out back in November. Mr. Jannarone stated he received notices sent to Mr. Vella from Mr. Vella on December 16th. Board asked Mr. Jannarone if his client knew about the charges. Board attorney stated he was advised there was another outstanding charge. Board stated that crowd safeguards in place are imperative and this is one of the most serious issues. John Sullivan appeared before the board and was sworn in. Mr. Sullivan is the principal of the business and stated that the overcrowding safeguards they have in place are: door log at the door/clicker system/they also keep it under fifteen people. Mr. Sullivan stated they have a system in place and they do understand the importance. Board asked Public Safety Director if there are any chronic issues to which Director Tooke responded location certainly does attract a lot of people. Board attorney stated that there are no tavern sheets. Board agreed to zero served, five in abeyance for non-vault on ordinance violation. Vice chairman accepts the plea with the reduced penalty.

BOARD MEMBER	Motion/Move	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote
Chairman Phillips						✓
Vice Chairman Blumenfeld	✓		✓			
Commissioner Bauman		✓	✓			

CLOSED SESSION

Vice chairman Blumenfeld moved to go into closed session at 6:21p.m.

BOARD MEMBER	Move	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote
Chairman Phillips						✓
Vice Chairman Blumenfeld	✓		✓			
Commissioner Bauman		✓	✓	•		

Vice chairman Blumenfeld motioned to come out of close session at 6:41p.m.

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BOARD MEMBER	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote	
Chairman Phillips						✓	
Vice Chairman Blumenfeld	✓		✓				
Commissioner Bauman		✓	✓				

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

BOARD MEMBER	Motion/Move	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote
Chairman Phillips		,				✓
Vice Chairman Blumenfeld		✓				
Commissioner Bauman	✓					

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41p.m.